Location of New Sugar Factory in Gujarat

1618. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL :

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for changing the location for the establishment of a new sugar factory ;

(b) if so, at which stage the proposal is ying ; and

(c) by when the matter is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) Central Government had received six proposals for change of location of new sugar factories in Gujarat. In five cases, approvals have been granted and necessary amendments have also been made in their Letters of Intent. In respect of the remaining one case, the judgement of Gujarat High Court has been received and is being processed.

Violation of Sugar Release Policy

1619. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Co-operative Sugar Mills have expressed their concern over continuous violation of Sugar Release Policy by Food Ministry for the past few months;

(b) if so, what are the other demands made by the President of Sugar Mills ;

(c) whether Government have considered all suggestions made in their memorandum ; and

(d) if so, to what extent the doubts are cleared in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the report published in the Hindustan Times dated 5th February, 1994, the following main issues have been raised by the President, National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Limited :—

(i) Sorting out problems arising out of additional quota being realeased to only two mills.

(ii) apprehending a crisis late this year because of lesser carry forward stocks at the end of the year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Ad hoc releases of free sale sugar are made to sugar mills from time to time to enable them to clear their cane price dues or to help them to ride over their financial difficulties. Accordingly, ad hoc releases were made to the two sugar mills in view of the financial problems being faced by them to enable them to pay their cane price dues promply.

Government is aware of the likely fall in sugar production this season which may lead to inadequate carry over stocks at the end of the season. Efforts are being made to boost sugar production through various measures and further remedial measures, as deemed necessary, would be taken at the appropriate time.

Excessive releases of Sugar to Sugar Mills

1620. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH :

SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that excessive releases coupled with making large additional releases to two sugar mills belonging to the Oswal Group have been made ?

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and the details of release may be given alongwith the names and location of sugar factories since December, 1993 ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 85 per cent have been released to the two units in utter disregard of the normal practices ; and

(d) if so, the extraordinary reasons, that promopted such releases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) A total quantity of 37.70 lakh tonnes has been released in the current 1993-94 sugar season from October

1993 to March, 1994 for sale in the open market, as against 37.40 lakh tonnes in the corresponding period last season. This includes ad hoc additional releases given to the following sugar mills since December, 1993 as per details given below :

Month	Name and location of sugar mill	Quantity in tonnes
December, 1993	Phagwara (Punjab)	15,000.0
	Dhanaura (Uttar Pradesh)	10,000.0
	Baheri (Uttar Pradesh)	1,822.8
January, 1994	Phagwara (Punjab)	10,000.0
	Dhanaura (Uttar Pradesh)	7,500.0
	Siruguppa (Karnataka)	500.0
	Gauribidanaur (Karnataka)	500.0
February, 1994	Phagwara (Punjab)	10,000.0
	Dhanaura (Uttar Pradesh)	5,000.0

Additional sugar was released to the two units of the Oswal Group Viz. Phagwara (Punjab) and Dhanaura (Uttar Pradesh) in the current 1993-94 sugar season in view of the serious financial problems being faced by them to enable them to make payment of cane price dues to the growers promptly. In case of Baheri factory in Uttar Pradesh, the above mentioned quantity was released to avoid deterioration of sugar stocks on account of heavy rains in September, 1993 which had caused heavy damage to the godowns/stocks. Siruguppa and Gauribidanaur (Karnataka) factories were given additional releases in January, 1994 in view of the financial problems being faced by them.

Production and consumption of sugar

1621. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the production/consumption and import/export sugar during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 and as on date;

(b) the estimated production during 1993-94 in the country state-wise;

(c) the estimated consumption during 1993-94 in the country state-wise; and

(d) the quantum of import/export of sugar envisaged this year alongwith the detail thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The required information is as under :—

(Lakh tonnes)

Particulars	Sugar season (October—September)		
	1991-92 (P)	1992-93 (P)	1993-94(E)
Production	134.11	106.09	104.00
Consumption	112.25	120.05	124.05
Imports	Nil	Nil	*
Exports	5.83	3.97	0.40

(P) = Provisional. (E) = Estimated.

*=It is not possible to give estimates of imports, if any, at this stage.